

AK Southeast Salmon Drift Gillnet Fishery

Fishing gear type: Gillnet

Current category: Category II*

Basis for current classification on the LOF: The total annual mortality and serious injury of humpback whale (Central North Pacific stock) in this fishery is greater than 1% and less than 50% of the stock's Potential Biological Removal (PBR) level.

Current list of marine mammal species/stocks injured/killed (a⁽¹⁾ indicates those stocks driving the fishery's classification): Dall's porpoise, AK; Harbor porpoise, Southeast AK; Harbor seal, Southeast, AK; Humpback whale, Central North Pacific⁽¹⁾; Pacific white-sided dolphin, central North Pacific; Steller sea lion, Eastern U.S..

Estimated number of current participants: 476

Take Reduction Teams/Plans that affect this fishery: None.

Year added to the LOF: 1996

Category when originally listed: Category II

Basis for original classification on the LOF: This fishery was categorized as a Category II because observer and stranding data indicated that mortality and serious injury of harbor porpoise (Southeast AK) was 3 animals/year, or 1.3% of PBR (PBR=231); and serious injury and mortality of humpback whale (Central North Pacific) was 0.13 animals/year, or 4.6% PBR (PBR=2.8). Also, Category III reports from fishermen indicated that mortalities of both species occurred prior to 1994.

Estimated number of participants when originally listed: 443

Past names, if any: Southeast Alaska salmon drift gillnet (until 2001).

Gear description/method for fishing: This fishery uses drift gillnet gear with soak times of 20 minutes to 3 hours. The gear is set during the day and night, with 6-20 sets set per day.

Target species: Salmon.

Spatial/temporal distribution of effort: This fishery generally operates from June 18 to early October in five main fishing areas off Southeast AK, as well as at Annette Island, in terminal harvest areas (THA) adjacent to hatchery facilities, and for hatchery cost recovery. The majority of salmon are caught by drift gillnets in the five main fishing areas (81% in 2003) and the THAs (13% in 2003), with small contributions from Annette Island (4% in 2003), and for hatchery cost recovery (1.8% in 2003).

Levels of observer coverage each year[†]: This fishery has not been observed by the Alaska Marine Mammal Observer Program.

Management and regulations: This fishery is managed by the AK Department of Fish and Game as a limited entry fishery with gear restrictions on the mesh and net size, and area closures.

*The fishery is classified based on mortalities and serious injuries of a marine mammal stock greater than 1% and less than 50% (Category II) of the stock's Potential Biological Removal (PBR) level.

[†] Observer coverage levels include the latest information reported in the most current final Stock Assessment Reports (SAR).

History of Changes on the LOF

2009 LOF: Estimated number of participants updated from 481 to 476.

2006 LOF: Added a superscript “1” in Table 1 after humpback whale (Central North Pacific), indicating that takes of this stock are driving the classification of the fishery.

2001 LOF:

- Renamed this fishery from “Southeast AK salmon drift gillnet” to “AK Southeast salmon drift gillnet.”
- Estimated number of participants updated from 439 to 481.

1999 LOF: Estimated number of participants updated from 452 to 439.

1998 LOF:

- The stock of harbor porpoise on the list of species/stocks killed/injured in this fishery was changed from “AK” to “Southeast AK.”
- Estimated number of participants updated from 443 to 452.